

GREATER SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Private Bag X 8611
GROBLERSDAL
0470



Tel: (013) 262 7641
Fax: (013) 262 2524
Email: sekinfo@sekhukhune.co.za

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

FROM : Oriel Nemukula
Acting Director: Communications

23 August 2009

MEDIA RELEASE:

The executive mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Mogobo David Magabe has announced that the district will soon spearhead the establishment of forums that will focus on mining and tourism economic development issues.

Addressing more than 100 women during the Women Economic Development Summit at CN Phatudi FET College in Praktiseer near Burgersfort – Cllr Magabe said that organising an Agricultural Summit for the district was also in the pipeline.

Magabe mentioned these initiatives on the backdrop of Sekhukhune having mining, transport, agriculture and tourism as its three main economic pillars.

The summit aimed to galvanise women of the district to explore entrepreneurial opportunities that are on offer by inviting successful women in fields such as construction, agriculture, mining to impart their knowledge and experiences.

“We are engaging with mining houses on a regular basis to pave a way for processes that seek to benefit all who live in the district, the province and the country. And, as we do so, we will emerge with a strategy that will benefit our people and we are therefore pursuing an ideal of having a Mining Forum,” Magabe said.

The Mining Summit will take place on 09 September 2009 in **Hanna** Lodge near Burgersfort.

“The Tourism Forum will integrate all our tourism and heritage wealth into projects that will benefit the people of this district,” he said.

“We are also seeking to revive the spirit of tilling the land, and urge our women to start planting vegetables in their backyards.”

Mayor Magabe also urged women to take advantage of the district’s 2009/2010 budget of about R1-billion in order to organise themselves and venture into businesses offered by government.

“Through phase 2 of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), we envisage that more women will be empowered by acquiring the necessary skills while making a living and developing our communities,” he said.

The executive mayor encouraged the women to take keen interest in developments on the R9-billion De Hoop Dam that is under construction in Ga-Malekana near Burgersfort because it offers vast business opportunities.

Magabe said that the municipality has resolved to effect a turn-around strategy in as far as the awarding of tenders in time, payment of contractors and signing of certificates for contractors were concerned.

Mayor Magabe said government had shown its seriousness about turning rural areas like Sekhukhune into thriving centres of development by creating the Rural Development Ministry.

“I must emphasise that women empowerment is not about elite, urban and township women. We need to impact positively on the lives of thousands of ordinary women in our district,” Magabe said.

For more information, please contact:

Oriel Nemukula, Acting Director: Communications, on 082-528-0472.

OR

Sizwe Yende
(Senior Communication Officer: Media Relations)
Tel: (013) 262-7641
Mobile: 082-769-1352 or 072-507-7347
E-mail: yendes@sekhukhune.co.za
Website: www.sekhukhune.gov.za